

As in recent years past events have once again demonstrated the need for preparedness for event of all types of emergencies. Nature has put many regions of America to the test; record storms have ravaged areas of our country this year. In Massachusetts record floods have demonstrated the need for emergency preparedness. Continued military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan along with heightened security in the Metro Boston Area have reinforced the need to protect our citizens from terrorism both foreign and domestic. At the beginning of this decade few of us would have thought this year we would see the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in flames from a terrorist attack or thought it possible the forces of nature could leave a major American city destroyed and abandoned with its survivors suffering and dying for days for lack of any assistance. In the wake of 9-11 Attacks and Hurricane Katrina we now know that failures in leadership and preparedness can have a tremendous cost in both human lives and the destruction of property before, during and after a disaster. The Brookline Emergency Management Team (EMT) strives to prepare both municipal government and our residents for all possible emergencies.

The mission of the Brookline Emergency Management Team (EMT) is to coordinate local, state, federal, voluntary and private resources during emergencies and disasters affecting the Town of Brookline. The Brookline EMT provides leadership to: develop plans for effective response to all hazards, disasters or threats; train emergency personnel to protect the public; provide information to the citizenry; and assist individuals, families, and businesses to mitigate against, prepare for, and respond to and recover from emergencies, both natural and manmade. Police Chief Daniel O'Leary is the Chair of the Brookline EMT and also serves as the Town's Emergency Management Director. Working with a team approach, the EMT integrates Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Public Health, Public Works, Buildings, Schools, Recreation and the Human Relations departments into unified command to respond to emergency situations within the Town.

Emergency Management Team Leaders

Daniel C. O'Leary, Police Chief/Emergency Management Director Peter Skerry, Fire Chief Andy Pappastergion, Commissioner Public Works Dr. Alan Balsam, Director Public Health Dawn Carmen Sibor, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Health Department

For additional information on local emergency preparedness, please contact the Town's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Bill McGroarty at 617-730-2112 <u>bill_mcgroarty@town.b_rookline.ma.us</u>